

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION AF-06

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TAGS: PFOR, US, SO

SUBJECT: SOVIET BASE ISSUE: NOTE OF PROTEST FROM SOMALI MOFA

REF: A) MOGADISCIO 815 B) STATE 135878 C) STATE 134645

1. EMBASSY TODAY MAY 11 RECEIVED NOTE VERBALE FROM MOFA PROTESTING IN STRONGEST TERMS ALLEGATIONS MADE BY USG OFFICIALS AND US PUBLIC MEDIA THAT USSR HAS MILITARY BASE IN SOMALIA.

2. NOTE STATES THAT CONTINUATION OF SUCH HOSTILE ALLEGATIONS DEMONSTRATES ATTEMPTS BY US TO CREATE RIFT BETWEEN SOMALIA AND US AND OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES (SIC) AND CONSTITUTES QTE MEASURE OF ILL WILL WITHOUT ANY REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION UNQTE.

3. NOTE EXPRESSES GSDR'S EARNEST HOPE THAT USG AND ITS MEDIA WILL PUT AN END TO SUCH ACCUSATIONS WHICH DO NOT RPT NOT CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS BEING MADE TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS.

4. NOTE CONCLUDES WITH CAUTION THAT QTE ANY ADVERSE EFFECTS RESULTING FROM SITUATION UNQTE WILL BE RESPONSIBILITY OF USG.

5. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF NOTE:

"THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

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PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO EMBASSY OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN

MOGADISHU AND HAS HONOR TO REFER ONCE AGAIN TO BASELESS ALLEGATIONS MADE CONSTANTLY BY RESPONSIBLE UNITED STATES OFFICIALS, ITS PUBLIC MEDIA, AND COMMENTED ON, LAST WEEK, BY CHAIRMAN OF CONGRESSIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, THAT UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS HAS A MILITARY BASE IN SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

" IN THIS CONNECTION, WHILE LODGING ITS STRONGEST PROTEST TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST THE REPETITION OF THIS ALLEGATION, THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT WISHES TO STATE THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS NO MILITARY BASE WHATSOEVER IN THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, AND ANY COMMENTARY LEADING TO THAT DIRECTION IS ABSOLUTELY GROUNDLESS.

" IT IS, AS REPEATEDLY STATED, A CARDINAL PRINCIPLE OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO OPPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES IN THIS REGION AND ELSEWHERE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THIS IS A CORNERSTONE OF NON-ALIGNMENT TO WHICH THIS COUNTRY IS DEEPLY COMMITTED. MOREOVER, THE EXISTENCE OF MILITARY BASES WHICH NATURALLY IS A TOOL OF HUMAN DISTRUSTION IS ITSELF OPPOSED AND INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE NOBLE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND NATION SOVEREIGNTY. THE PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE OF SOMALIA PRESERVING THEIR INDEPENDENCE CANNOT EVEN REMOTELY IMAGINE THEIR MOTHERLAND HOSTING FOREIGN INSTRUMENTS OF WAR, AND HAVE ALWAYS OPPOSED THE EXISTENCE OF FOREIGN MILITARY ARSENALS IN THIS REGION OR ITS VICINITY, PARTICULARLY IN THE RED SEA AND INDIAN OCEAN.

"THE CONTINUED MENTION OF THIS ALLEGATION BY RESPONSIBLE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES DEMONSTRATES A FURTHER ATTEMPT BY THE UNITED STATES TO CREATE A RIFT BETWEEN SOMALIA AND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. THIS CONSTANT HOSTILITY BY THE UNITED STATES TOWARDS SOMALIA CONSTITUTES A DEEP MEASURE OF ILL-WILL WITHOUT ANY REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION.

"IN ORDER TO ENLIGHTEN THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACTUAL DISPLAY OF THE TRUTH, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, JAALLE MAJOR GENERAL MOHAMED SIAD BARRE HAVE, MANY A TIME, REFUTED THIS ALLEGATION AND INFORMED PRESIDENT FORD ACCORDINGLY DURING HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES LAST YEAR. HE EVEN INVITED THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESSMEN OF RESPONSIBLE STANDING TO VISIT THE AREA IN QUESTION SO THAT THEY MAY SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE TRUE NATURE OF THE SITUATION. IN THIS REGARD, AND ONLY LAST MONTH, JOURNALISTS FROM THE ARAB LEAGUE WHO VISITED BERBERA CATEGORICALLY DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A BASE AND REPORTED SO IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JOURNALS.

"THE FACILITIES FOR SHIPS IN ALL SOMALI PORTS DO EXIST, AND ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY NATION THAT TRULY NEEDS IT THROUGH FRIENDLY

MANNER.

"HAVING STATED SO MUCH, IT IS THE EARNEST HOPE OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT THAT THE AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS MEDIA WILL IN FUTURE PUT A STOP TO THIS AND SIMILAR ACCUSATIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTE NO CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO THE EFFORTS BEING MADE TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. ANY ADVERSE EFFECTS RESULTING FROM THE SITUATION WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

"

"MOGADISHU, JUNE 11, 1975."

6. COMMENT: REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS.
HAMRICK

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